

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2005. Claims 1-22 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 11, 13, 14 and 22 are rejected. Claims 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12 and 15-21 are objected to. Claims 2, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13 have been amended. Claim 1 has been cancelled. New claims 23-28 have been added. Accordingly, claims 2-28 are now pending in the present application.

Specification

The Examiner states,

1. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.
2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 22, line 1, transistor "175" should be change to -157--. Appropriate correction is required.

Applicant has made this correction in accordance with the Examiner's instructions.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states,

5. Claims 3, 5-7, 9-10, 12, 15-21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record fails to teach the above multilevel flash cell architecture and wherein the translation logic detects underprogramming and overprogramming of a flash cell by comparing the sensing node to limits for each state.

Applicant appreciates and acknowledges Examiner's indication that the above-identified claims are allowable. Claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form. Claims 2, 8, 12 and 13

have been amended for proper dependencies. Claim 23 is claim 3 rewritten in independent form.

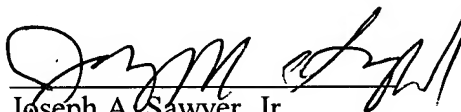
Claim 24 is claim 5 rewritten in independent form. Claims 25 and 26 are dependent claims that are similar to claims 6 and 7 that are dependent on claim 25. Claim 27 is claim 12 rewritten in independent form and claim 28 is claim 15 rewritten in independent form.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims 2-28 are allowable over the cited references and are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections and objections to the claims, as now presented.

Applicants' attorney believes this application in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
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